

# 2004 Thresher Show Activities—

## Living history program featured during show

The presentation of Living History by the youth of the area was a focal program of the show each day of the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show held July 29 through Aug. 1 in Bird City.

The adapted presentations were given in two parts.

The first part featured the Council Circle with the dramatized story of the traditional ceremonies of the Southern Cheyenne Indians — the "Sacred Fire," "The Four Winds," and the "Peace Pipe Ceremony."

The characters of this dramatization were represented by Craig Busse as Chief Black Kettle of the Southern Cheyenne Indians; Kelly Basnett as Wounded Wing — a medicine woman of the Southern Cheyenne; Tia Sager as White

Feather of the Kanza Indians; Larysa Eckhoff of a Northern Cheyenne Chief; Hailey Woodcox as an Arapaho Chief; Lance Leonard as an Indian agent; and Max Hengen as half-blood Cheyenne, George Bent.

The second part was about the hidden treasures of history. Stories of the early pioneers of Cheyenne County characterized by Hailey Woodcox, a pioneer teacher, Eta Lnn; Max Hengen as Benjamin Bird, an early cattleman and town site founder; Lance Leonard as G.A. Benkelman, an early cattleman; Larysa Eckhoff as Mary McCall Cave; Craig Busse as circuit rider August Busse; Tia Sager as Nancy Heaton; Kelley Basnett as a Cheyenne Indian medicine

woman.

The musical adaptation of the Warriors Peace Prayer for the program was played by Marsha Magley. The program closed with a special song about a cowgirl in Cheyenne County presented by Helene Landenberger, The Wild Rose poet.

The historical dramatized stories of Living History were written and developed by Dorthy Mast and Rosemary Powell.

Mrs. Mast said that she and the others making the presentations appreciated all of the youth who participated and their parents.

"The presentations were enjoyed by many of those attending the show," Mrs. Mast said.



GUIENEVERE AND GREGOR BURR were busy checking out how the old-fashioned equipment worked back in the "old days."

Times staff photo by Karen Krien



THOSE ATTENDING the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show was entertained by the Deans Duckson and the Turkey Snort.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

## Old-fashioned country school literary held at Threshershow

By Marsha Magley, schoolmarm

The 20th annual Old-Fashioned Country School Literary was held outdoors, in front of Highland Schoolhouse on the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher grounds, on July 29, the opening evening of the Thresher Show in Bird City.

Marsha Magley welcomed those present and the following persons performed intermittently throughout the program.

- Phil Crawford, vocal solos with guitar accompaniment, *Changing Time, Montana Slim, Better Times And Better Ways, Cowboy Prodigal, The Cowboy's Heaven and The Cattle Call Yodel.*

- Amanda Dorsch, an Edward Lear limerick and some lovely harmonica solos, *What A Friend We Have In Jesus, Morning Has Broken, Love Me Tender and The Way You Look Tonight.*

- Marsha Magley, schoolmarm, readings and an original poem, *Who Was? What And Why, A Council Circle Prayer, The Pillsbury Doughboy's Obituary and My Parents' Song.*

- Ken Beougher, a poem *Life In The 1500s.*

- Rosemary Powell, assistant schoolmarm, poems, *The Friendship Quilt* by Rita Hayworth; *Granny's Quilts* by Mildred Jarrell, *The Quilted Life* by Elaine Porter and *The Flag.*

- Fred Magley, a poem *The Old Model T.*

- Virginia Grafton, a poem in memory of her son *Ladles And Jellyspoons.*

This year's theme at the schoolhouse centered around Indian and Pioneer History. With a script compiled by Dorthy Mast and Rosemary Powell, chairpersons, and music pro-

vided by Helene Landenberger and Marsha Magley, Craig Busse, Kelly Basnett, Tia Sager, Max Hengen, Lance Leonard, Larysa Eckhart and Leah Rambat, all of Bird City, and Hailey Woodcox, St. Francis, performed a dramatic and Informative Living History Portrayal each afternoon of the show. The cast of students participating and many other children as well departed each day's presentation with miniature peace pipes and clay bead necklaces, made by Mrs. Magley and painted by cast members.

Visitors who registered their visit at the schoolhouse this year (2004) recorded the following states of residence: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.

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